

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR EXCHANGE OF NODE CHARACTERISTICS
FOR DATA SHARING IN PEER-TO-PEER DATA NETWORKS**

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A method and system is presented for allowing a user of a data sharing application in a peer-to-peer network to review node characterizing data of a node/host that is connected to the user's node. After the data sharing application has received the node characterizing data that describes various characteristics of the connected node, the node characterizing data is presented to the user. After viewing the data, the user is able to decide whether or not the peer-to-peer data sharing application should remain connected to the other node, thereby allowing the user to eliminate unnecessary data traffic and optimize the user's connections and search time.

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